

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY
OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 1. A method for encouraging users of computer readable content to register, the method
2 comprising embedding in said computer readable content, instruction codes operable to
3 direct a processor circuit to automatically establish a connection to a server, when said
4 content is in use by said processor circuit, to transmit registration information to said
5 server and operable to control further use of said content by said processor circuit in
6 response to a key received from said server.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising storing said computer readable content and said
2 embedded instruction codes on a portable memory medium.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1 further comprising providing said computer readable content and
2 said embedded instruction codes for use by a user computer.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein embedding comprises embedding a self executing apple
2 in said computer readable content.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4 further comprising producing said apple such that said apple
2 contains said instruction codes.
- 1 6. A method for encouraging users of computer readable content to register, the method
2 comprising providing to a user computer said computer readable content and instruction
3 codes embedded in said computer readable content, said instruction codes being operable
4 to direct a processor circuit of said user computer to automatically establish a connection
5 to a server, when said content is in use by said user computer, to transmit registration

6 information to said server and operable to control further use of said content by said user
7 computer in response to a key received from said server.

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein providing comprises transmitting said computer readable
2 content and said embedded instruction codes to said user computer.

1 8. The method of claim 7 wherein transmitting comprises transmitting said computer readable
2 content and said embedded instruction codes on a communications network.

1 9. The method of claim 7 wherein transmitting comprises providing a computer readable
2 medium to a user, said computer readable medium having stored thereon said content and
3 said embedded instruction codes.

1 10. A method for encouraging users of computer readable content to register, the method
2 comprising executing instruction codes embedded in said computer readable content,
3 when said content is in use by a processor circuit, to automatically establish a connection
4 to a server to transmit registration information to said server and to control subsequent use
5 of said content by said processor circuit in response to a key received from said server.

1 11. The method of claim 10 wherein executing comprises causing said instruction codes to be
2 executed when access is made to said content by said processor circuit.

1 12. The method of claim 10 wherein executing comprises producing a measure of use of said
2 content by said processor circuit.

1 13. The method of claim 12 wherein producing said measure of use of said content comprises
2 determining a number of times said content is accessed by said processor circuit.

- 1 **14.** The method of claim **12** wherein producing said measure of use comprises determining
2 memory usage of functional descriptive content in said computer readable content.
- 1 **15.** The method of claim **12** wherein producing said measure of use comprises determining
2 document usage by function descriptive content in said computer readable content.
- 1 **16.** The method of claim **12** further comprising establishing said connection to said server
2 when said measure of use exceeds a threshold value.
- 1 **17.** The method of claim **16** wherein establishing said connection comprises establishing an
2 internet protocol connection with said server.
- 1 **18.** The method of claim **17** further comprising launching a browse session with a uniform
2 resource locator pointing to a user registration page for permitting a user to enter
3 registration information.
- 1 **19.** The method of claim **10** wherein controlling subsequent use of said content comprises
2 enabling subsequent use of said content when said key is received from said server.
- 1 **20.** The method of claim **10** wherein controlling subsequent use of said content comprises
2 disabling further use of said content when no key is received from said server.
- 1 **21.** The method of claim **20** further comprising deleting files produced by functional
2 descriptive content in said computer readable content.
- 1 **22.** The method of claim **21** further comprising warning a user of said processor circuit that

2 files are about to be deleted.

1 23. The method of claim 10 wherein controlling subsequent use of said content comprises
2 maintaining a count of the number of times a warning about deleting files is presented to
3 a user of the processor circuit.

1 24. The method of claim 23 wherein controlling comprises deleting files produced by
2 functional descriptive content in said computer readable content when said count exceeds
3 a threshold value.

1 25. A method of controlling a use of computer readable content, the method comprising
2 transmitting to a user computer a key operable to cooperate with said user computer to
3 deactivate execution of instruction codes embedded in said computer readable content at
4 said user computer, in response to receipt of registration information from said user
5 computer.

1 26. The method of claim 25 further comprising hosting a uniform resource locator pointing to
2 a user registration page for permitting a user to provide said registration information to
3 register as a user of said computer readable content.

1 27. The method of claim 26 further comprising validating said registration information.

1 28. The method of claim 27 further comprising executing the act of transmitting when said
2 registration information is successfully validated.

1 29. A computer readable medium on which is stored computer readable content and instruction
2 codes embedded in said computer readable content, said instruction codes being operable

3 to direct a processor circuit to automatically establish a connection to a server, when said
 4 content is in use by the processor circuit, to transmit registration information to the server
 5 and operable to control further use of the content by the processor circuit in response to
 6 a key received from the server.

1 30. A data signal comprising a first code segment providing computer readable content and a
 2 second code segment embedded in said first code segment such that said second code
 3 segment is rendered operational when said first segment is used, said second code
 4 segment comprising instructions for directing a processor circuit to automatically
 5 establish a connection to a server, when said content is in use by the processor circuit, to
 6 transmit registration information to the server and operable to control further use of the
 7 content by the processor circuit in response to a key received from the server.

1 31. The computer readable medium of claim 29 wherein said instruction codes are provided in
 2 a self executing apple.

1 32. A system operable to encourage users of computer readable content to register, the system
 2 comprising:

3 a) a processor circuit;

4 b) a communications interface in communication with said processor circuit
 5 for communicating with a server; and

6 c) a receiver for receiving computer readable content with instruction codes
 7 embedded therein, said instruction codes being operable to cause said processor circuit
 8 to automatically cause said communications interface to establish a connection to a server

9 to transmit registration information to the server, and to control subsequent use of said
10 computer readable content by said processor circuit, in response to a key received from
11 the server.

1 33. The system of claim 32 wherein said receiver includes a media reader.

1 34. The system of claim 32 wherein said communications interface is operable to establish
2 communications on a network.

1 35. The system of claim 32 wherein said processor circuit is part of a personal computer.

1 36. A system for controlling the use of computer readable content, the system comprising:

2 a) a receiver for receiving registration information from a user computer; and

3 b) a transmitter for transmitting to a user computer a key operable to cooperate
4 with said user computer to deactivate execution of instruction codes embedded in
5 computer readable content at said user computer, in response to receipt of registration
6 information at said receiver.

1 37. The system of claim 36 wherein said receiver includes a web server operable to host a
2 uniform resource locator pointing to a user registration page for permitting a user to
3 provide registration information to register as a user of said computer readable content.

1 38. The system of claim 37 wherein said web server is programmed to validate said registration
2 information.

